Spares of Bofors Guns

3035. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:
SHRI SATISH PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the critical shares of Bofors Guns have been exhausted;

(b) whether it is also a fact that almost all the guns have been relegated to a ceremonial status;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any decision has been taken on the fate of the spares; and

(e) if not, what action has been taken to procure the spares on an emergency basis?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b): No, Sir.

(c): Does not arise.

(d) and (e): The Government has taken appropriate steps to ensure the continued supply of spares for the Guns.

Ramming of Vijayanta Tank Into Guard Room

3036. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a 22-tonne Vijayanta tank was rammed into the wall of a guard room in Delhi Cantt on 27th November, 1992; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. However, the Vijayanta tank weighs 41 tonnes and not 22 tonnes.

(b) On 27th November, 1992, a Vijayanta tank had been taken to the test track for being tested, after repairs. While returning to the Workshop, from the test track, the tank had to steer away to avoid collision with an approaching vehicle. In this manoeuvre it hit the roadside wall of the Air Force Signal Unit.

Safety Hazards at Tambram Air Force Station

3037. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the wild spoted deer numbering about 400 posing flight safty hazards at the Tambram Air Force Station have been offered to various zoo authorities besides charity organisations in the country;

(b) if so, what is the response received so far in this regard; and

(c) if no response has been received what measures are being contemplated by Government for the safety of these deer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the organisations have responded positively.

(c) The Forest Department of the State Government has promised to find a solution. IAF is also considering fencing the airfield area.

Defence Research Programmes by Defence Research and Development Organisation

3038. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the salient features of the major programmes taken up by the Defence Research and Development Organisation during the eighties;

(b) what is the extent to which the defence research goods in the eighties have been developed;